

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, Michael Lax, declare that I am a citizen of the United States of America, residing and having a post office address at 1303 Ridge Road, Syosset, New York 11791; that I verily believe myself to be the original, first, and sole inventor of the invention or discovery in:

APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR  
COMMUNICATING ASSET INFORMATION

which is described and claimed in the attached specification and for which a patent is sought; that I have reviewed and do understand the content of said specification, including the claims, and acknowledge my duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office information known by me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56;

that I do not know and do not believe that this invention or discovery was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention or discovery thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention or discovery thereof, or more than one year prior to this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application; that this invention or discovery has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America

on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to this application; and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention or discovery has been filed in any country foreign to the United States of America by me or my legal representatives or assigns;

and I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e), of United States Provisional Applications Nos. 60/446,386, filed February 10, 2003 and 60/487,467, filed July 14, 2003;

and I hereby appoint Robert R. Jackson, Esq., Reg. No. 26,183, Jeffrey Ingerman, Esq., Reg. No. 31,069, Joseph Guiliano, Esq., Reg. No. 36,539, and Robert W. Morris, Esq., Reg. No. 36,613, my attorneys and Edward M. Arons, Reg. No. 44,511, and Laura A. Sheridan, Reg. No. 48,446, my agents, with power of substitution, and with power of appointment of associate attorneys or agents, and of revocation of their powers, to prosecute this application and any divisions, continuations in whole or in part, renewals and reissues of the same, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith;

and I request that communications be sent to:

Edward M. Arons  
FISH & NEAVE  
1251 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10020-1105

and that telephone calls be directed to:

Edward M. Arons  
(212) 596-9000

Wherefore, I pray that Letters Patent be granted to me for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the attached specification and claims,

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and I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration, and power of attorney.

I declare, further, that I understand the English language and that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and, further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

2/10/04

Date



Michael Lax